

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Charles Musserian on May 20, 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1 line 23 "the running contact surfaces." is replaced by

---the running contact surfaces;

wherein the annular collar is cut off in step d) such that, in addition to the running contact surfaces of the arms, a finger-like extension remains on the crossbar comprising the cavity, which extension extends longitudinally away from the crossbar and is subsequently bent over so as to project from the upper side of the crossbar.---

Claim 2 is cancelled.

Claim 8 line 1 "A method of claim 2 wherein step d)" is replaced by ---A method of claim 1, wherein step d)---

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Examiner's best art, Calka (US Patent 5,720,245), Trutescu et al (US Patent 5,819,694), Okubo et al (US Patent 6,588,101), Okubo et al (US Patent 6,508,215), Okubo et al (US Patent 6,601,555), Nozaki et al (US Patent 7,360,290) and KENKICHI (Japanese Patent

Document JP-06159018-A) teach or obviate the limitations of deep drawing, stamping, punching and cutting the annular collar except for two elongate opposing projecting portions. Examiner's best art does not teach or obviate the limitation whereby the annular collar is cut off such that in addition to the running contact surface on the arms, a finger-like extension remains on the crossbar comprising the cavity, which extends longitudinally away from the crossbar and is substantially bent over so as to project from the upper side of the crossbar.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JACOB J. CIGNA whose telephone number is (571) 270-5262. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9:30am - 5:00pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Bryant can be reached on (571) 272-4526. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/JACOB J CIGNA/
Examiner, Art Unit 3726
May 24, 2010

/DAVID P. BRYANT/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3726